

Wilson, Edith

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Hartman, Gary S

From: Edith Wilson [ewanm@dearthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2001 6:50 AM
To: Y12EIS
Subject: NO NEW BOMB PLANT

Please be advised of the following:

I am opposed to any new bomb plants.

I believe there is no need politically, strategically, or militarily for new bomb manufacturing.

Russia has ratified START 2 Treaty. Putin has called for deeper cuts in arsenal that negotiated START 3 Target levels, and Bush has indicated his willingness to make deep cuts.

The Y-12 EIS violates US nonproliferation goals.

The environmental impact study of proposed new manufacturing ignores historic contamination. Risk scenarios based on safety claims cannot be believed. Critical issues of worker safety are not addressed.

The community of Scarboro, less than one mile from Y-12 plant raises the issue of environmental justice.

Most importantly to me, I believe with all my heart that it is evil, a sin, to spend money building weapons of mass destruction. We should be spending our resources meeting the social needs of people, rather than befouling the environment, endangering workers, and preparing to destroy the world.

Sincerely,
Edith Wilson

1/16

2/14

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(cont)

Comment No. 1

Issue Code: 16

At the present time, the United States is downsizing the nuclear weapons stockpile consistent with the terms of START I and the recently ratified START II. Although Russia suspended its nuclear weapons dismantlement activities on January 20, 2001, DOE has continued its weapons dismantlement activities. DOE is responsible for meeting the current requirements set forth by the President and Congress. The need for nuclear weapons and alternative uses of the Nation's funds are beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.

Comment No. 2

Issue Code: 14

The historic contamination at Y-12 is discussed in Volume I, Sections 4.5.1, 4.5.2 and 4.5.3, which detail the surface and groundwater impacts. The effects due to past releases including mercury are reflected in the No Action - Status Quo Alternative and are also detailed in the ORR Annual Site Environmental Report. DOE believes that it has adequately addressed impacts to the environment that could result from implementing the various alternatives. Volume I, Chapter 5 of the Y-12 SWEIS addresses impacts of the proposed action and alternatives. Volume II, Appendices D and E provide further detailed analysis related to human health effects from normal operations/facility accidents and air quality, respectively. Appendix A discusses the actions taken at specific facilities at Y-12 in response to fire and worker safety issues. Worker safety is always a first priority at Y-12 and a commitment of DOE. (Also see response to Comment No. 26 on page 217.)

Comment No. 3

Issue Code: 13

DOE is committed to compliance with provisions of Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*. The environmental justice analysis was prepared in accordance with the CEQ's guidelines of environmental justice under NEPA. The Y-12 SWEIS addresses the issue of whether implementation of the proposed action or alternatives would result in disproportionately high and adverse environmental

Comment No. 3 (cont.)**Issue Code: 13**

effects on minority or low-income populations. As discussed in Volume I, Chapter 5, Sections 5.12 and 5.13 of the Y-12 SWEIS, implementation of the alternatives for the continuation of the Y-12's weapons support mission and the construction and operation of new facilities for the HEU Storage and Special Materials mission at Y-12 would pose no significant radiological or nonradiological health risks to the public. The conservatively estimated dose to the MEI for Alternative 4 would be approximately 4.5 mrem/year, which is below the NESHAP standard of 10 mrem/year. The risks would not be significant regardless of the racial, ethnic, and economic composition of potentially affected populations. (See also the response to Comment No. 20 regarding the Scarboro Community on page 212.)